New Claims 2 and 10 (submitted in PCT application 1/11/06)

What is Claimed Is:

2. A method for operating a drive unit (1), in particular in a vehicle, in which a setpoint is specified for at least one output variable of the drive unit (1), a setpoint for an operating variable of the drive unit (1) additionally being specified in at least one operating state of the drive unit (1), the at least one output variable of the drive unit (1) being modified in this operating state, starting from its setpoint, in the sense of approximating an actual value for the operating variable to the setpoint for the operating variable,
wherein the at least one operating state is characterized by a gear shift operation of a transmission.

10. A device for operating a drive unit (1), in particular in a vehicle, having means (5, 10, 15) for specifying a setpoint for at least one output variable of the drive unit (1), a first specification unit (5) being provided, which additionally specifies a setpoint for an operating variable of the drive unit (1) in at least one operating state of the drive unit (1), means (55, 60) being provided for modifying the at least one output variable of the drive unit (1) in this operating state, starting from its setpoint, in the sense of approximating an actual value for the operating variable to the setpoint for the operating variable,
wherein the at least one operating state is characterized by a gear shift operation of a transmission.

New Claims 1 through 10 (submitted in PCT application 3/21/05)

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for operating a drive unit (1), in particular in a vehicle, in which a setpoint is specified for at least one output variable of the drive unit (1), a setpoint for an operating variable of the drive unit (1) additionally being specified in at least one operating state of the drive unit (1),
wherein, in this operating state, the at least one output variable of the drive unit (1) is specified regardless of its setpoint, in the sense of approximating an actual value for the operating variable to the setpoint for the operating variable.

2. A method for operating a drive unit (1), in particular in a vehicle, in which a setpoint is specified for at least one output variable of the drive unit (1), a setpoint for an operating variable of the drive unit (1) additionally being specified in at least one operating state of the drive unit (1), the at least one output variable of the drive unit (1) being modified in this operating state starting from its setpoint, in the sense of approximating an actual value for the operating variable to the setpoint for the operating variable,
wherein the at least one operating state is selected to be different from an idling operating state.

3. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims, wherein a torque or a power of the drive unit (1) is selected as output variable.

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4. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims, wherein a speed of an engine of the drive unit (1) is selected as operating variable.

5. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims, wherein the at least one operating state is selected as the start-up operating state of the drive unit (1).

6. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims, wherein the at least one output variable of the drive unit (1) is specified by a regulator (25) in the sense of approximating the actual value for the operating variable to the setpoint for the operating variable.

7. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims, wherein the drive unit (1) is operated with an internal combustion engine, and a first output variable of the drive unit (1) is specified for an ignition path (30) of the internal combustion engine and a second output variable of the drive unit (1) is specified for an air path (35) of the internal combustion engine.

8. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims, wherein the setpoint for the at least one output variable is transformed **[implemented]** without modification after the end of the at least one operating state.

9. A device for operating a drive unit (1), in particular in a vehicle, having means (5, 10, 15) for specifying a setpoint for at least one output variable of the drive unit (1), a first specification unit (5) being provided, which additionally specifies a setpoint for an operating variable of the drive unit (1) in at least one operating state of the drive unit (1),
wherein a second specification unit (25) is provided, which in this operating state specifies the at least one

output variable of the drive unit (1) regardless of its setpoint, in the sense of approximating an actual value for the operating variable to the setpoint for the operating variable.

10. A device for operating a drive unit (1), in particular in a vehicle, having means (5, 10, 15) for specifying a setpoint for at least one output variable of the drive unit (1), a first specification unit (5) being provided, which in at least one operating state of the drive unit (1) additionally specifies a setpoint for an operating variable of the drive unit (1), means (55, 60) being provided for modifying the at least one output variable of the drive unit (1) in this operating state, starting from its setpoint, in the sense of approximating an actual value for the operating variable to the setpoint for the operating variable,
wherein the at least one operating state is different from an idling operating state.